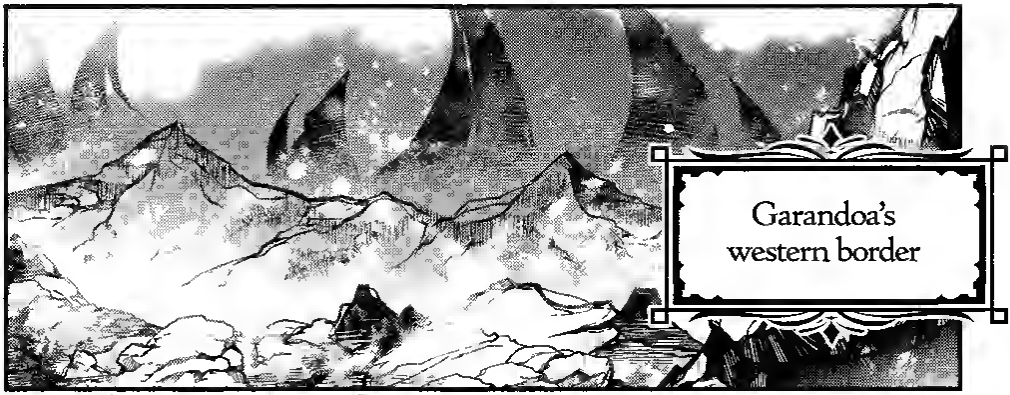
# Chapter 11: The Power of Lightning

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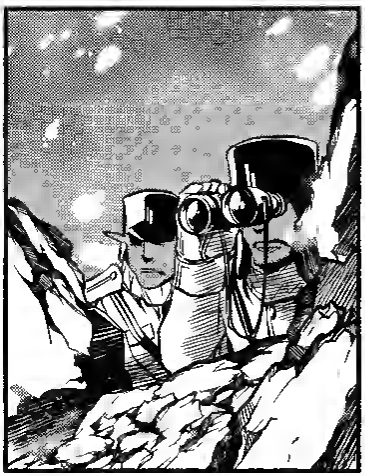
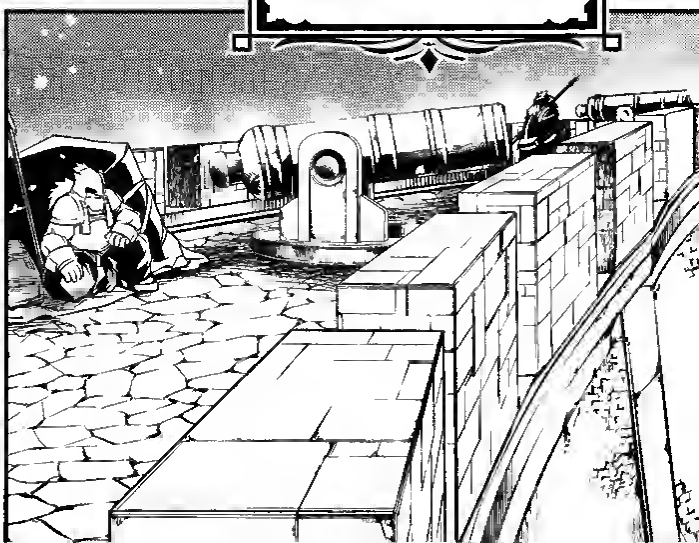
You can find the uncensored chapters at www.finemang.tk





The Dhalani invasion force
THE SCOUTS HAVE REPORTED IN!
3
THERE ARE ONLY A FEW GUARDS UP ON THIS SECTION OF THE WALL, SIR!
AS EXPECTED.
ONLY GOES TO SHOW...
...MOVING THE ENTIRE FORCE ACROSS THE NORD MOUNTAIN RANGE WAS WELL WORTH THE EFFORT!
WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW...
...EIL?!

DO AS YOU WISH
MAYBE I'LL CRUSH THE DWARVES WITH MY ARMY ALONE!
MAYBE WE WON'T NEED THE HASAS AFTER ALL!

4

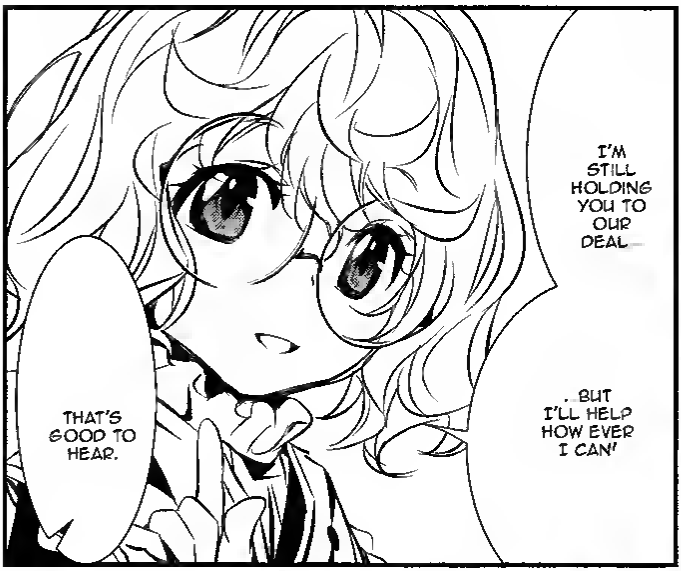
WE WILL BEGIN OUR PREPARATIONS!
THEN I WILL!
WHILE THE SOLDIERS ARE BEING FED AND RESTED .

THEN WE WILL ATTACK, AND YOU WILL STAND BACK AND KNOW YOUR PLACE!

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW GLAD I AM THAT YOU CAME, AND JUST IN TIME!
THANK YOU...
..PRINCESS SAKURA
I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE AND WELL
HOLD ON, NOW...
SOMEONE ATTACKED YOUR BOY ON MY TRAIN?!
MAJOR!
IT IS ENTIRELY MY FAULT THAT WE WERE SO LATE!
bow
I HEARD YOU WERE ATTACKED, REN.
THAT'S RIGHT, YOUR HIGH-NESS!
SOMEONE PUSHED ME FROM THE TRAIN!

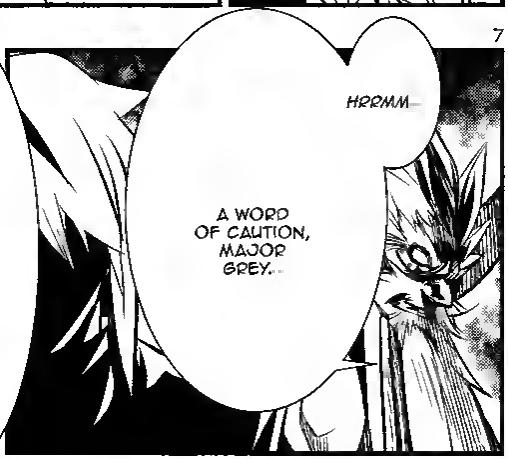
CRAP...!
DORONEA SAID IT WAS THE JADE HALLS THAT WENT AFTER REN TO MAKE SURE I LOST THE GAME...
...BUT IF I START POINTING FINGERS AT THE DWARVEN WOMEN, WHO KNOWS HOW THE KING WILL REACT...
I WOULD HEAR MORE OF THIS!
6
IF IT HAD TO HAPPEN, I'M GLAD IT HAP-PENED TO ME!
...SO COLD DOESN'T BOTHER ME, AND I CAN RUN FOR MILES!
I ONLY MADE IT THANKS TO MY DOG BLOOD...
HELL OF A JOB!
HELL OF A JOB, REN!
IF I'D HURT MY LEG, I DON'T THINK I WOULD'VE MADE IT.
AND I HAD A LOT OF LUCK, TOO. I ONLY BROKE MY ARM.

YOU DID WELL, REN!


I'M STILL HOLDING YOU TO OUR DEAL...
...BUT I'LL HELP HOW EVER I CAN!
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.

AND CELIA...
GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT.

DO NOT LET YOUR VISITORS DISTRACT YOU FROM THE GAME.
OF COURSE!
IN FACT, KING HAVOL..


HRRMM...
A WORD OF CAUTION, MAJOR GREY...

NOW THAT THEY'RE HERE, I CAN START MY WORK FOR REAL!

DHALAN! TROOPS HAVE ATTACKED THE WESTERN BORDER!
WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!
WHAT IS IT NOW?!
MY KING!
NOW I SEE WHAT EASY PREY SWEET-HEARTED DORONEA MUST'VE BEEN FOR YOUR WILES.
YOU SURROUND YOURSELF WITH WOMEN FOR YOUR WORK...
YOU SEEM TO BE IN HIGH DEMAND, MAJOR GREY.

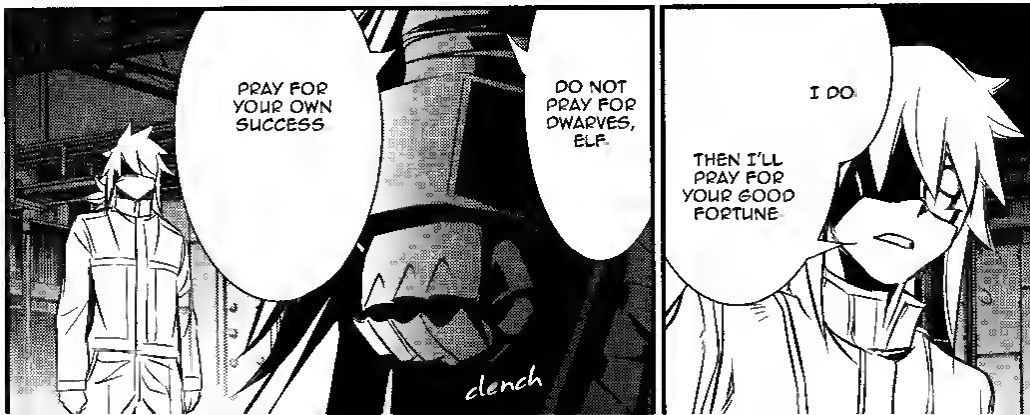
SAY WHAT?!

THEY MUST'VE CROSSED THE NORD MOUNTAINS WITH THEIR ARMY...
...AND ALREADY THEY'VE BREACHED THE OUTER WALL!
WE ARE BEING INVADED...
...BY THE BLACK-EARS?!

NO.
THE AGREEMENT STANDS, THE GAME CONTINUES
KING HAVOL..
I WILL HELP YOU.

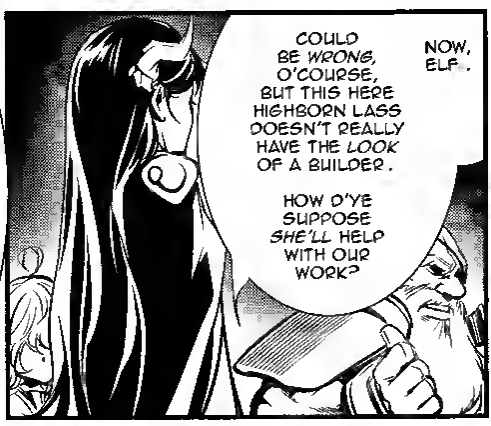
I WILL GO WEST AND DRIVE THE INVADERS FROM OUR LAND.
AND WHEN I RETURN, YOUR ENGINE WILL BE FINISHED.
..OR YOU WILL BE
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?



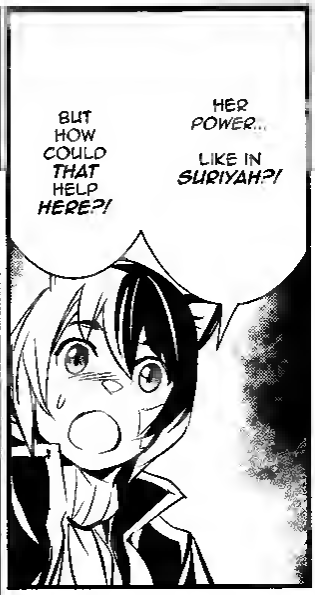

PRAY FOR YOUR OWN SUCCESS
DO NOT PRAY FOR DWARVES, ELF.
clench
I DO.
THEN I'LL PRAY FOR YOUR GOOD FORTUNE.

VERY WELL
IF THAT'S HOW IT IS..
WE'LL JUST DO WHAT WE HAVE TO

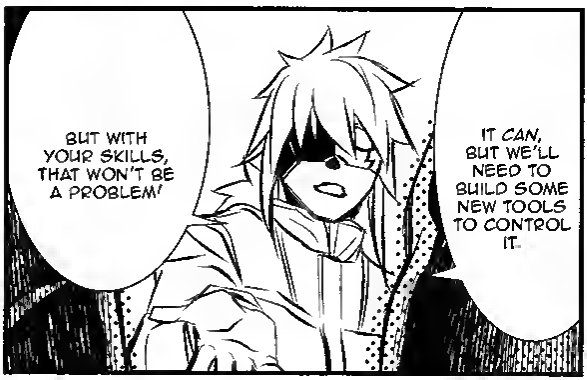
BY GRACIOUSLY ALLOWING ME TO USE HER POWER


NOW, ELF..
COULD BE *WRONG*, O'COURSE, BUT THIS HERE HIGHBORN LASS DOESN'T REALLY HAVE THE *LOOK* OF A BUILDER.
HOW D'YE SUPPOSE *SHE'LL* HELP WITH OUR WORK?

"ELEC-TRICITY"?
WE'LL USE ITS *LIGHTNING!*
ELECTRICITY!


BUT HOW COULD *THAT* HELP *HERE?!*
HER *POWER*..
LIKE IN *SURIYAH?!*

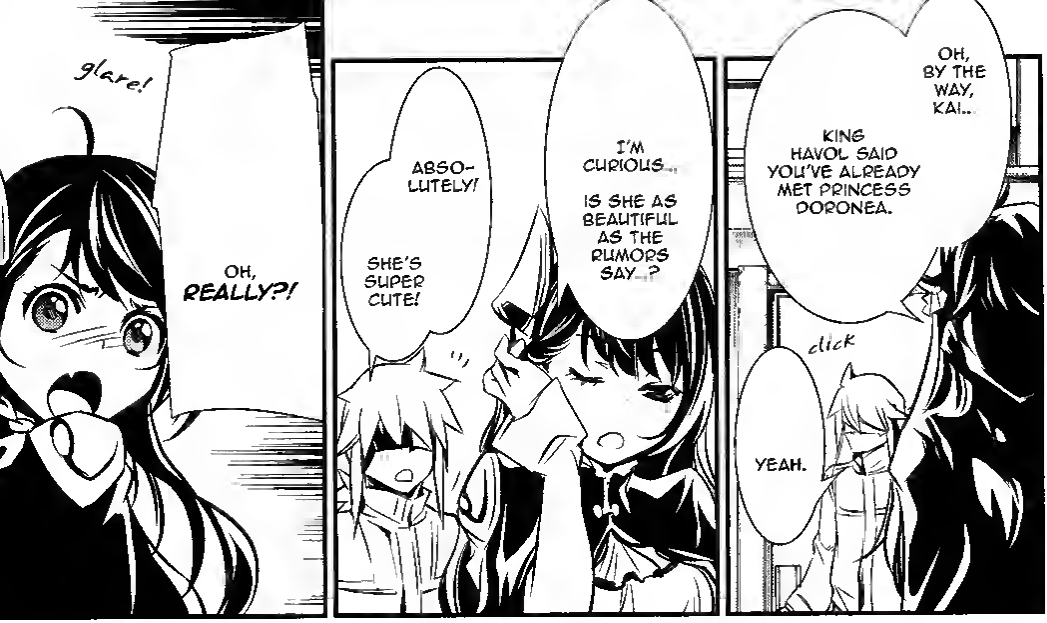
RUMBLE
MURMUR
THERE!
THIS IS WHAT I MEAN!
clak,


BUT WITH YOUR SKILLS, THAT WON'T BE A PROBLEM!
IT CAN, BUT WE'LL NEED TO BUILD SOME NEW TOOLS TO CONTROL IT.

WELL, LAD, IT'S...
THE IDEA IS PRETTY ENOUGH...
BUT...
..D'YE REALLY THINK IT CAN BE DONE?

PRINCESS?
nod

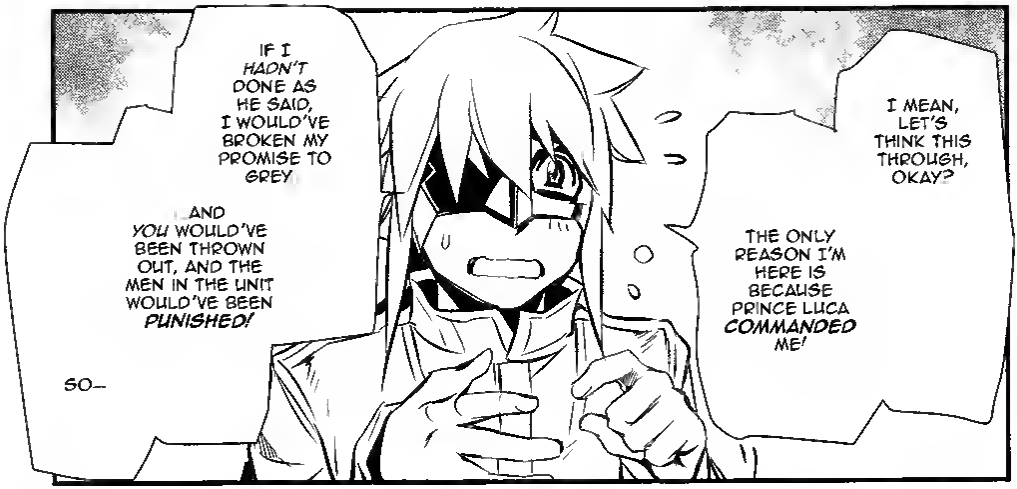
YOU?
THEN I SAY WE SHOULD GET STARTED SOON AS POSSIBLE.

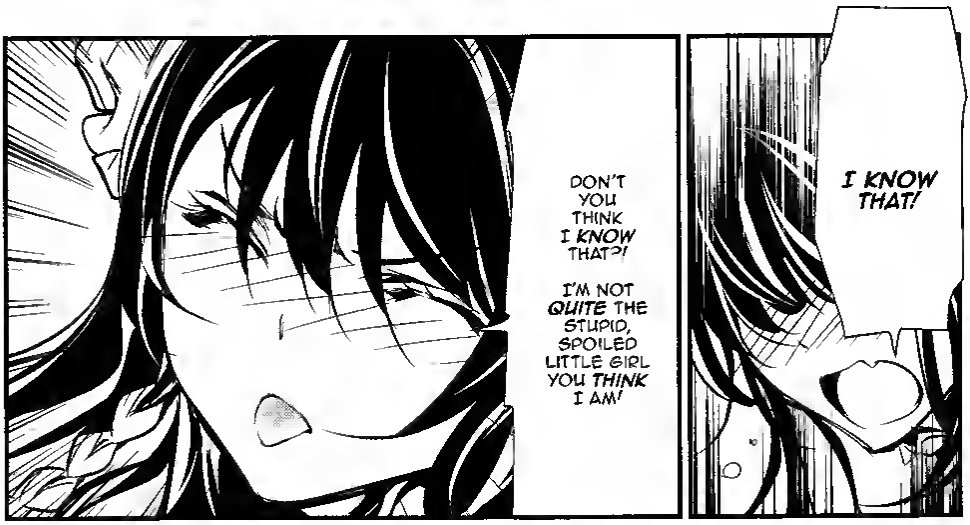

glare!
OH, REALLY?!
ABSO-LUTELY!
SHE'S SUPER CUTE!
I'M CURIOUS...
IS SHE AS BEAUTIFUL AS THE RUMORS SAY...?
OH, BY THE WAY, KAI..
KING HAVOL SAID YOU'VE ALREADY MET PRINCESS DORONEA.
click
YEAH.

YOU'RE SAYING YOU JUST SWANNED IN AND PRACTICALLY MARRIED PRINCESS DORONEA?!
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN!
NO WONDER THE KING WANTS YOU DEAD!
KAI, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?!
THEN YOU'VE SEEN HER FACE?!
CHRIST, WHERE DID THIS COME FROM?!
WELL, UH...
I, UH...
SO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE VEIL THING, HUH...?
GARANDOA IS ADAAR'S ANCIENT ALLY!
OF COURSE I KNOW ABOUT THE VEILS!

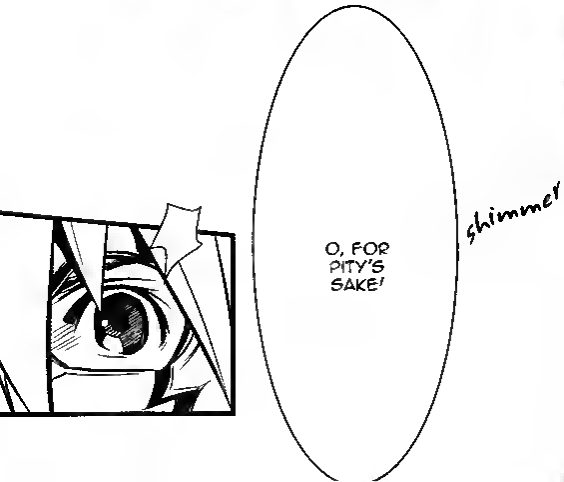
THERE'S CAPTAIN LIGIA!
SHE SEEMS TO THINK YOU CAN MOVE THE STARS AND THE MOONS!
AND NIA, SHE WORRIES ABOUT YOU CONSTANTLY WHILE PRETENDING NOT TO!
AND THEN THERE'S CELIA, THE HALFLING ALCHEMIST!
SHE JUST APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE, TALKING ABOUT A PROMISE YOU'VE MADE HER!
AND THEN...

I-IT'S NOT WHAT YOU THINK!
YOU DO SEEM TO BE IN HIGH DEMAND INDEED
I MUST SAY, KAI.

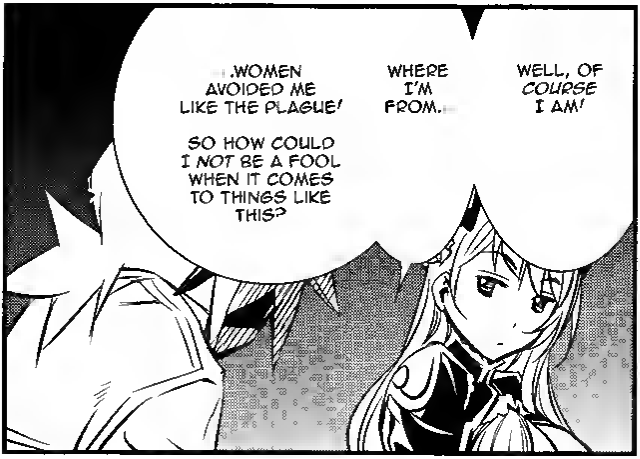

I MEAN, LET'S THINK THIS THROUGH, OKAY?
THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE IS BECAUSE PRINCE LUCA COMMANDED ME!
IF I HADN'T DONE AS HE SAID, I WOULD'VE BROKEN MY PROMISE TO GREY.
AND YOU WOULD'VE BEEN THROWN OUT, AND THE MEN IN THE UNIT WOULD'VE BEEN PUNISHED!
SO—


I KNOW THAT!
DON'T YOU THINK I KNOW THAT?!
I'M NOT QUITE THE STUPID, SPOILED LITTLE GIRL YOU THINK I AM!




YOU KNOW I DIDN'T MEAN THAT!
SO WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS...?!
shimmer
O, FOR PITY'S SAKE!

SAKURA HAS HAD HER FILL WITH THEE, YOUNG KAI.
SHE WILT NOT HEAR ONE MORE WORD.
SHAKUNTIIRA...


...WOMEN AVOIDED ME LIKE THE PLAGUE!
SO HOW COULD I NOT BE A FOOL WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS LIKE THIS?
WHERE I'M FROM...
WELL, OF COURSE I AM!

sigh...

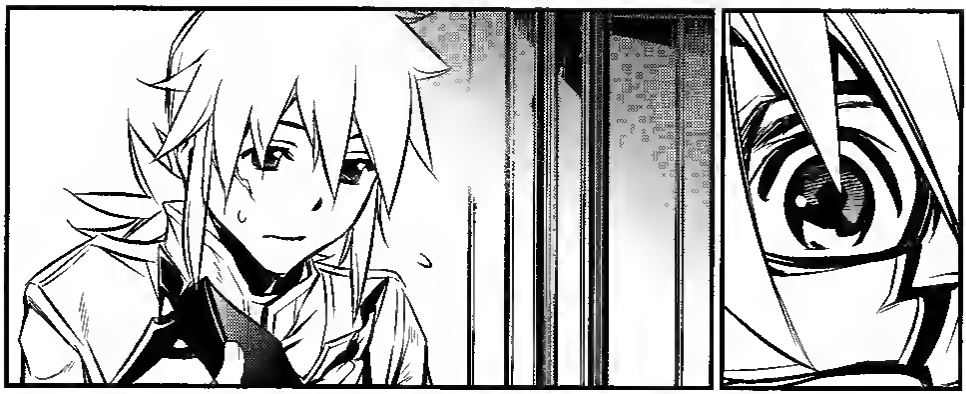
I MUST SAY, FOR ALL THY KNOWLEDGE, THOU ART A PERFECT FOOL WHEN IT COMES TO A GIRL'S HEART!

poink!
HOW FORTUNATE FOR THEE, THEN, THAT FOOLISH-NESS CAN BE CURED!

A SENSITIVE GIRL LIKE SAKURA, IN A MOOD LIKE THAT, HATH NO INTEREST IN *REASON*.
TO MAKE HER LISTEN, THOU MUST APPEAL NOT TO HER *MIND*...
...BUT TO HER *HEART*.

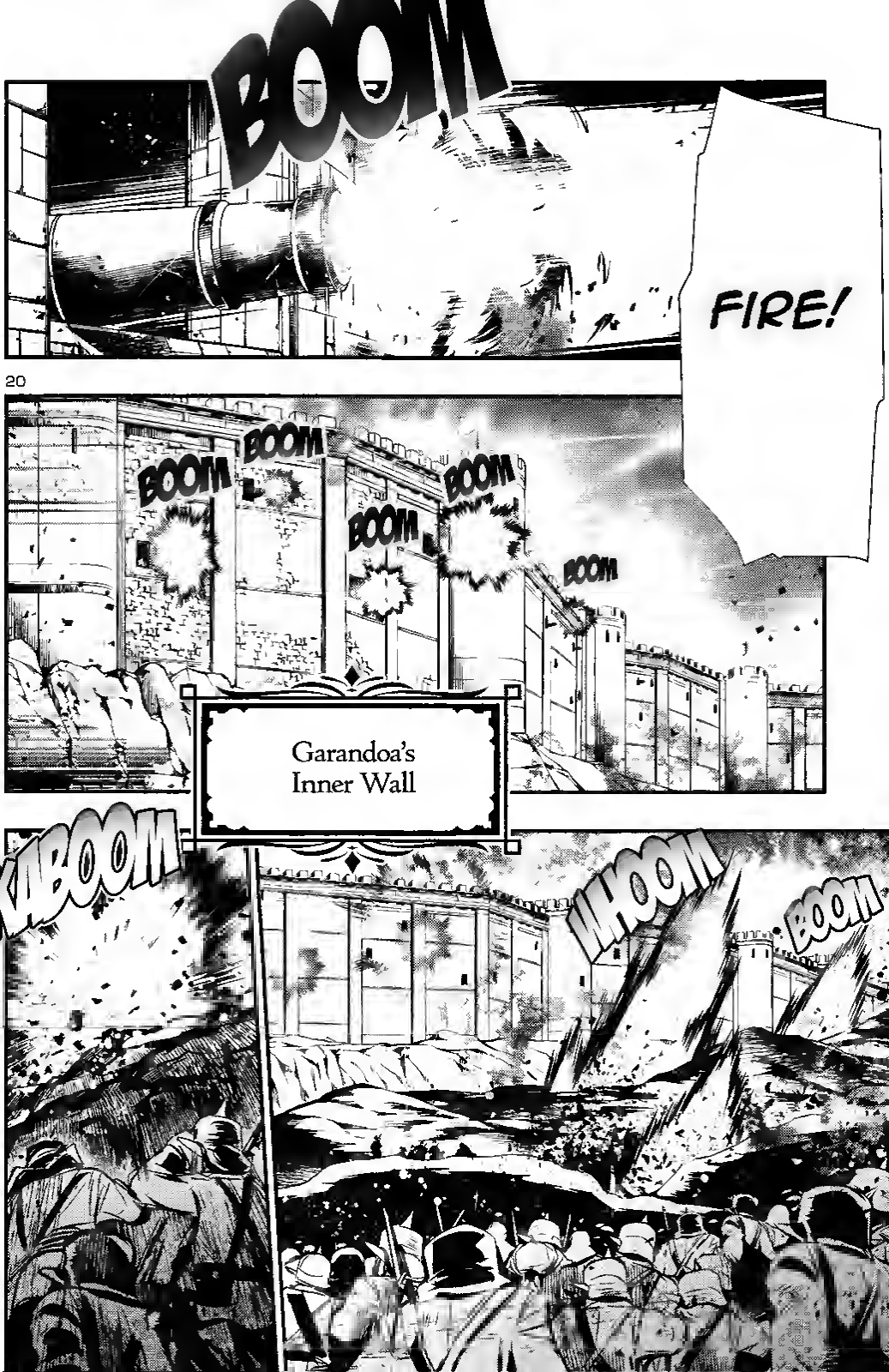
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT EVEN *MEANS*...

SHE JUST WANTS TO KNOW *THINE OWN FEELINGS*, UNMASKED AND TRUE.
SO LET ME HEAR WHAT THOU WOULDST SAY IF SHE WERE BEFORE YOU NOW.
IT MEANS DON'T *THINK* ABOUT IT.
IT IS NOT A PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED.



I...
I KNOW I'VE MADE YOU WORRY
AND I'VE MADE YOU FEEL NEGLECTED
AND I *WISH* I DIDN'T SAY THINGS THAT UPSET YOU, BUT...
ALL I KNOW IS THAT RIGHT NOW, I *NEED* YOU TO BE BY MY SIDE.
I NEED YOUR HELP.
FOR *MY* SAKE, YES...
...BUT I'M FIGHTING FOR YOU AND YOUR DREAM AS WELL...
...AND FOR OUR FUTURE.
SO...
ENOUGH FOR NOW.
*UN-POLISHED*, OF COURSE, BUT THAT IS NOT A BAD THING...
...AND *MUCH* BETTER THAN BEFORE.
tug

SO THOU SHALT NOT GO UN-REWARDED!
JUST, BE SURE TO TELL SAKURA THOSE SAME WORDS WHEN SHE RETURNS.
AH...!


BOOM
FIRE!
20
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
Garandoa's
Inner Wall
KI-BOOM
WHOOM
BOOM

HRMM...
THEY'RE PINNED DOWN!
NOW, THAT'S SOME GOOD CANNON-EERIN'!
RIGHT!

GOOD!
DHALA WILL LEARN A BITTER TRUTH TODAY.
...THAT THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RAISE YOUR HAND TO GARANDOA!
...WE'LL SWEEP 'EM OFF THE FIELD AND WIPE 'EM OUT!
THEN, WHEN THEY'RE GOOD AND READY..
WE'LL SOFTEN 'EM UP FOR A WHILE

KABOOM

RRRRRR
sssssssss
clatter
SHELLS?!
WHERE THE—
22
RRRRR

IF IT EVER WILL BE
IN THIS WORLD, THE INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE HAS YET TO BE INVENTED.
WHAT IS THAT?!
IT LOOKS LIKE A...
A MOVING BATTERY, MY KING!
RRRR

IN THIS WORLD...
...FOR THE FIRST TIME...
THE CANNONS CAN'T PUNCH THROUGH THE PLATES!
SIMPLY BY SHIFTING A WAR-TRAIN'S MIGHTY STEAM ENGINE INTO A SMALLER VEHICLE, A HEAVILY ARMORED YET SURPRISINGLY NIMBLE CANNON PLATFORM HAS BEEN INVENTED, COMBINED WITH TREADS THAT CAN MOVE IT ACROSS MOST TERRAINS
...THE TANK HAS ENTERED THE BATTLE-FIELD
HHHHHHHHHH
CLANK
MMMMMMMMM
BOOOM
MY KING—

I'M AFRAID THIS CANNOT WAIT!
PLEASE WAIT, PRIN-- CESS!
THEY ARE VERY BUSY IN THERE—
KLAK
KLAK
KLAK
NO SMALL THANKS TO THE YOU AND YOUR MEN.
IF IT WORKS, A LOT OF THINGS ARE GOIN' TO CHANGE!
THIS IS LOOKIN' BETTER BY THE MINUTE, LAD!
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!

PLEASE!
PLEASE, HELP!
THE INVADERS JUST BROKE THROUGH THE SECOND WALL, WHERE THE KING IS!

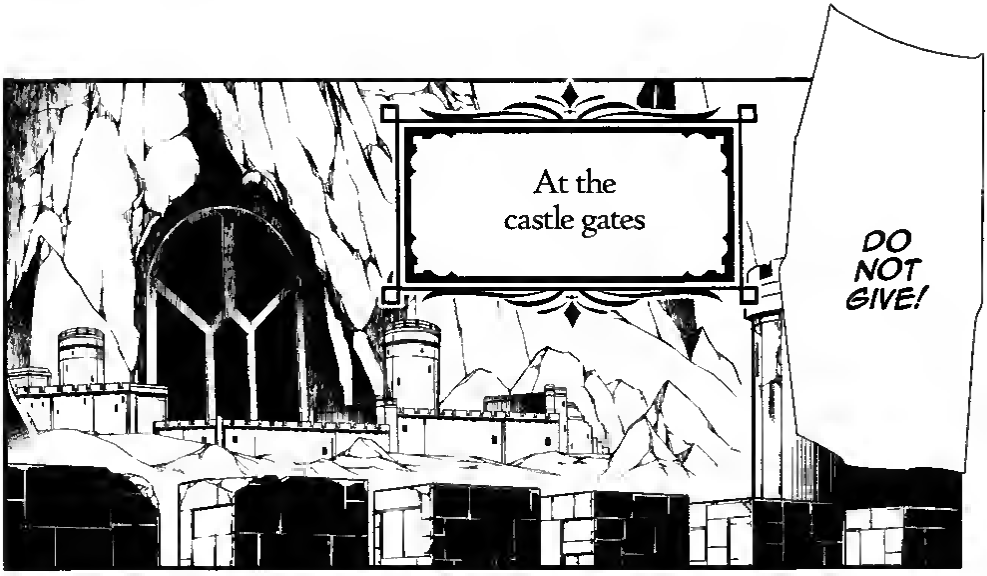
MAJOR GREY!
KLAK
KLAK

FROM YOUR DESCRIPTION, IT SOUNDS LIKE A TANK!
A... A "TANK"?

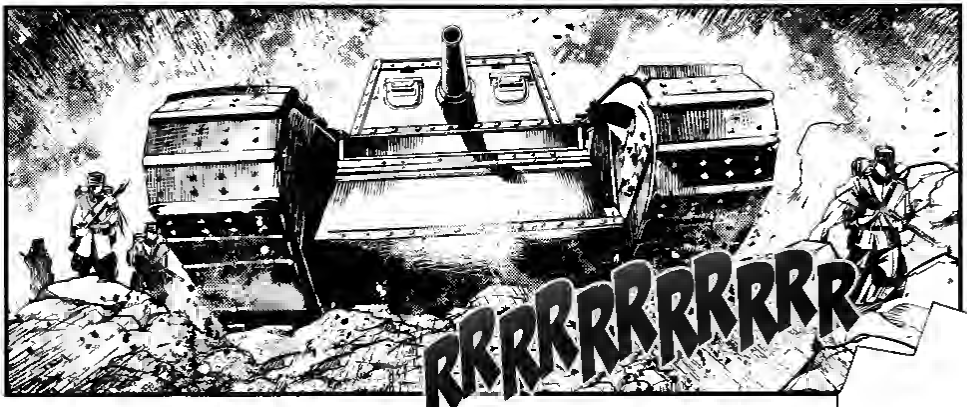
IT LOOKS LIKE IT HASN'T REALLY BEEN INVENTED YET — OR AT LEAST IT ISN'T A KNOWN WEAPON.
BUT I GUESS THE TIME AND LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY IS ABOUT RIGHT FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO SHOW UP...

MY BROTHER'S ARMY HAS BEEN FORCED TO DEFEND THE CASTLE BEYOND THE SECOND WALL!
IF THIS GOES ON...
I WILL HELP YOU.
AFTER ALL...
.. PRINCESS SAKURA WOULD NEVER WANT ME TO TURN MY BACK ON HER ALLIES

The castle at the inner wall
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BLAM
BAM
AAAAAAAA
THOK
CLANG
KABOOM!
HOLD YOUR GROUND!
IF WE BREAK HERE, WE'LL HAVE BLACK-EARS ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE CELLAR!

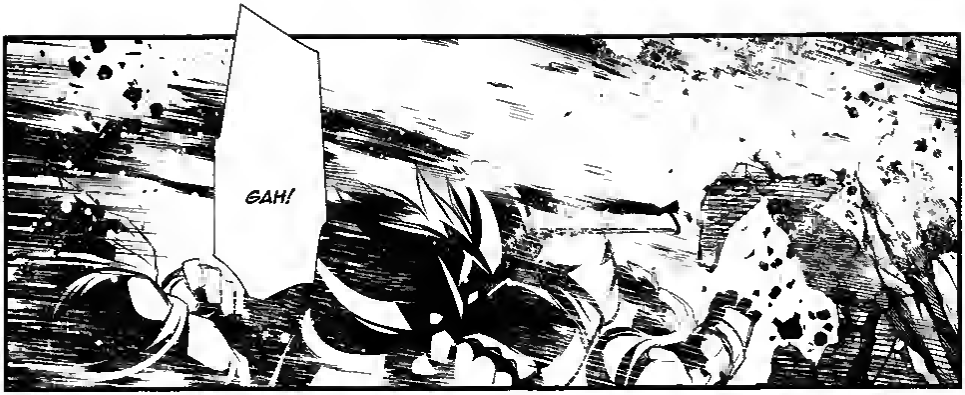

At the
castle gates
DO
NOT
GIVE!



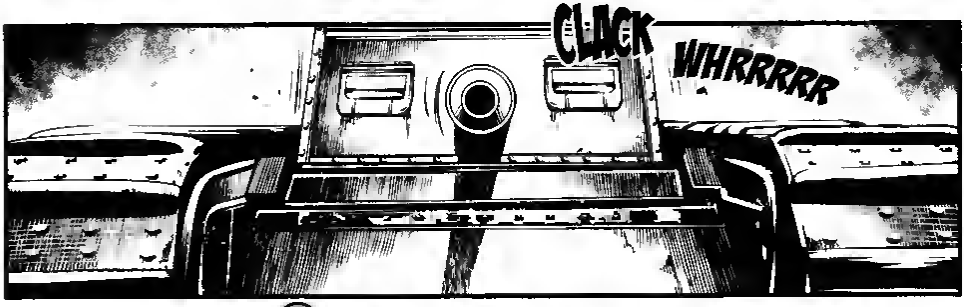

RRRRRRRRRRR

WHBOOM

MY
KING!
THAT
THING
IS—
KHH !!


GAH!

IF ONLY WE HAD A WAR-TRAIN ON THE CASTLE WALL, THEN THIS WOULD'VE ALREADY BEEN OVER!
AYE, IF ONLY...
...BUT THERE ARE NO WORKING WAR-TRAINS AROUND!


CLACK
WHRRRRR

BOOM
?!

RRRMMMMMM
WHAT?!

IT'S...
IT'S THE FORTRESS, MY KING!
IT MOVES?!
AND IT'S BEING PUSHED BY A SINGLE ENGINE?!
BUT THAT ISN'T EVEN POSSI-BLE!
THAT BEAST, UP ON THESE TRACKS...
IT'D NEED THREE, AT LEAST!
NO...
NO, WAIT...
DON'T TELL ME...
IT'S HIM! THE ELF, HE... HE FUCKING DID IT?! HE BUILT HIS OWN ENGINE?!

FASTER, LADS, FASTER!
IF THAT BOILER AIN'T MELTIN', YE AIN'T SHOVELIN' FAST ENOUGH!
THIS IS IT
READY?
YES!
CREAK
CLONG

WARRIORS, THE FIRST PRINCESS IS WITH YOU!
FOR GARANDOA...
...REDDEN YOUR BLADES!

KHOOM

KRAK
WHAM
SAAH!
WHOOF
WHOK
YOU'VE LET HER GENTLE MANNER TRICK YOU, MAJOR!
SHE'S A DWARVEN PRINCESS THROUGH AND THROUGH!
HOLY—
HOW STRONG IS SHE?!

LOOKS LIKE WE MADE IT, YOUR HIGH-NESS!
BROTHER!
DORONEA...!

HAH?!
WHEN WE ASSEMBLED IT...
..WE USED A NEW TECHNIQUE.
IT'S CALLED WELDING.
YOU!
HOW DID YOU GET THE FORTRESS UP HERE WITH JUST ONE ENGINE?!
THE CORRECT TERM WOULD BE ARC WELDING.
...AND AIM IT JUST SO...
...SO IT WOULD STRIKE RIGHT DOWN THE SEAM BETWEEN TWO PLATES OF IRON...
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN?
...AND EVEN THOUGH IT ONLY LASTS FOR THE BLINK OF AN EYE, IT'S A TREMENDOUS RELEASE OF ENERGY.
NOW, IF WE COULD TAKE A BOLT OF LIGHTNING...
YOU'VE ALL SEEN LIGHTNING BEFORE, OF COURSE...

IN ESSENCE, THAT IS WHAT ARC WELDING DOES
AND THE PLATES WOULD BE FUSED TOGETHER!
THE HEAT WOULD MELT THE IRON ON BOTH SIDES OF THE SEAM
HOW-EVER...
SO WE CAN GUIDE THE LIGHTNING EXACTLY WHERE WE WANT IT
WE'LL NEED WELDING RODS
LUCKILY...
...CELIA HAS MADE RODS THAT ARE AS CLOSE TO PERFECT AS I THINK WE CAN MAKE THEM

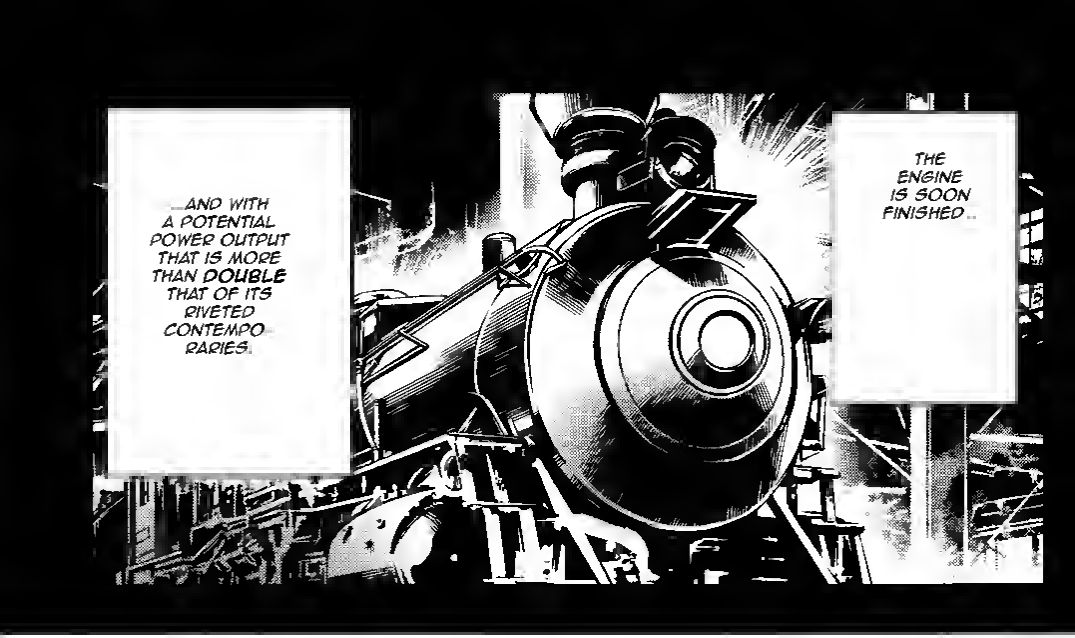
I APOLOGIZE, WE'VE KEPT YOU WAITING.
THE TOOLS ARE READY
NOW, WHERE'S THE LAD?
CRACKLE

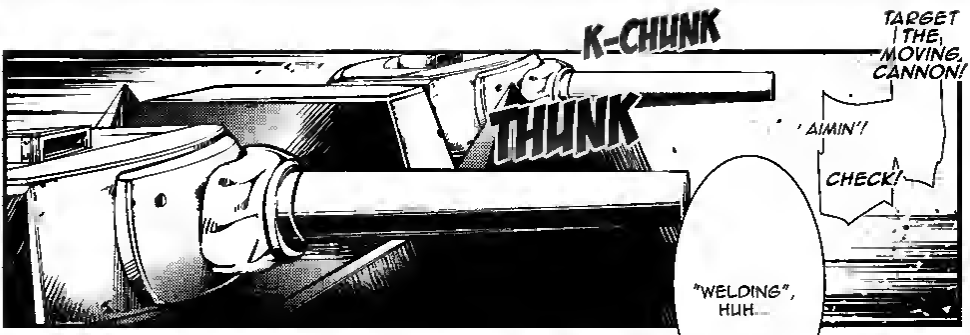
GOOD-NESS!
BUT I MUST SAY...
...NEVER DID I DREAM MY DIVINE CURSE WOULD BE USED AS A TOOL IN A DWARVEN WORK-SHOP!
KAI.
AS YOU HEARD.
RIGHT, LAD, DO IT!

...!!
TRZZZZT
KRZZZ

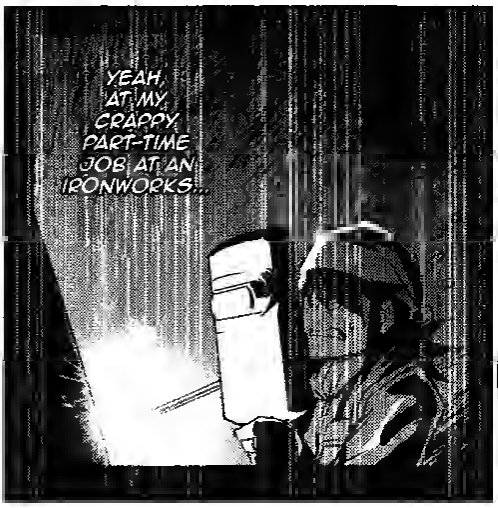
AND THE MOLTEN METAL FILLS THE SEAM!
THE IRON'S MELTING...
HAAH?!
SSSSSSSSS
LOOKS LIKE YOUR ENGINE WILL BE FINISHED RIGHT QUICK NOW, BOY!
HAHAAH!
LOVELY!

YES, BOSS!
LET'S GET TO IT, LADS!
IN KAI'S OLD WORLD...
...BEFORE THE INVENTION OF WELDING...
...ALL TRAINS WERE RIVETED
A RIVET IS A TYPE OF NAIL THAT BULGES ON BOTH ENDS WHEN HAMMERED, BASICALLY LETTING YOU LOCK METAL PLATES TO EACH OTHER
WITH THE INVENTION OF WELDING, ATTACHING METAL PLATES BECAME MUCH FASTER, AND THE RESULT WAS MUCH STURDIER
...THE DWARVEN BUILDERS UNDERSTAND, LEARN AND MASTER THE SKILL OF WELDING VERY QUICKLY
ALL OF THEM COMING FROM ANCIENT BLOODLINES OF MAKERS AND CRAFTSMEN
WELDED STEAM TRAIN ENGINES, OR LOCOMOTIVES, COULD TAKE SPEEDS AND PRESSURES THAT WOULD'VE MADE RIVETED ENGINES TEAR THEMSELVES APART ON THE TRACKS


...AND WITH A POTENTIAL POWER OUTPUT THAT IS MORE THAN DOUBLE THAT OF ITS RIVETED CONTEMPORARIES.
THE ENGINE IS SOON FINISHED...


K-CHUNK
THUNK
TARGET THE MOVING CANNON!
'AIMIN'!
CHECK!
"WELDING", HUH...

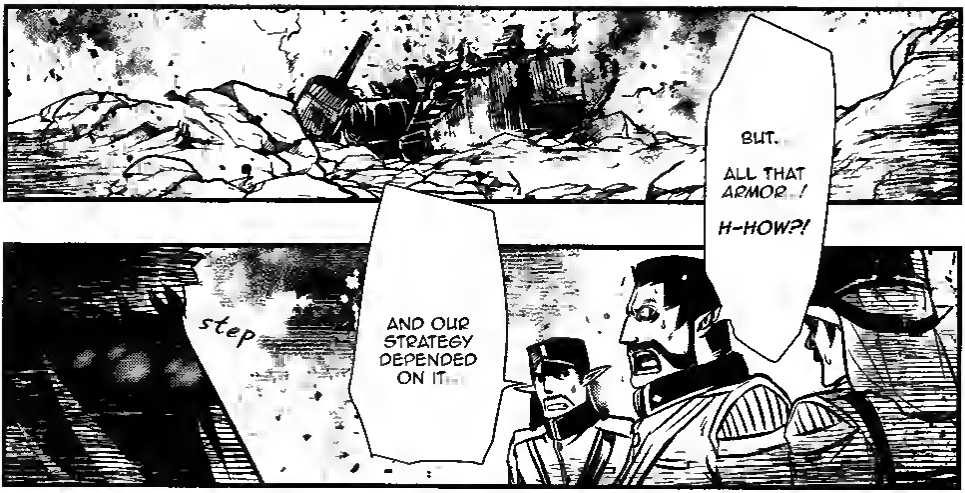



YEAH, AT MY CRAPPY PART-TIME JOB AT AN IRONWORKS...

I NEVER BELIEVED YOU WOULD INVENT SUCH A WONDROUS THING!
TO BE FAIR, KING HAVOL, I DIDN'T INVENT THE PROCESS
IT WAS PASSED ON TO ME.

KABOOM
RIGHT, LADS!
FIRE!
44
KRONK
GRT
HOOM

HAAAA!!
YEAH!
THE TANK HAS BEEN DEFEATED!
MAJOR GREY!
45
NOW LET'S SEE HOW THEY MANAGE *WITHOUT* THEIR LITTLE TOY!
YEAAAH!


BUT...
ALL THAT ARMOR...!
H-HOW?!
AND OUR STRATEGY DEPENDED ON IT...
step

SHIZUNA.
THEIR PRECIOUS MACHINE HAS FAILED
IT'S OUR TURN NOW.
YES, MASTER!

SHINJU NO NECTAR
NECTAR OF DHARANI

NEXT:
CHAPTER 12

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